

## REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment cancels Claim 149, and amends Claims 148, 153 and 178. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 165-177 are allowed, and that Claims 149, 153 and 178 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Claim 148 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 149; Claim 153 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 148 and 149; and 178 have been rewritten in independent form incorporating the subject matter of Claim 148. Claims 150, 151 and 152 depend from Claim 148, so that it is believed that Claims 150, 151 and 152 should also now be allowable.

In light of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application should now be in condition for allowance, and an early favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that might remain as to allowability of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LLP

By: 

James W. Paul  
Reg. No. 29,967

JWP/rvw

Encls.: Return Postcard

Howard Hughes Center  
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Telephone: (310) 824-5555  
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696  
Customer No. 24201  
160394.1